

Hongkong Telegraph

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1894.

THIRTY DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

Banks.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED £1,185,000

BANKERS:
LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 Months 5 per cent.
" 6 " 4 " "
" 3 " 3 " "

JOHN THURBURN,
Manager, Hongkong,
Hongkong, 4th February, 1893. [20]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorised Capital £1,000,000
Subscribed Capital £500,000

HEAD OFFICE:—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors:—
D. Gillies, Esq. Chow Tung Shing, Esq.
Chan Kit Shan, Esq. Kwan Hoi Chun, Esq.
H. Stollert, Esq.

Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Branches:—London, Yokohama, Shanghai and Amoy.

BANKERS:—
The Commercial Bank of Scotland,
Parry Banking Co., and The Alliance Bank (Ld.)

Interest for 12 months Fixed, 5 per cent.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1893. [17]

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £2,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP £251,093.15

BANKERS:
CAPITAL & COUNTRIES BANK, LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE:
No. 3, PRINCE'S STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES:
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

AGENCIES:
PENANG, SINGAPORE AND YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF INTEREST.
ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS and Fixed Deposits can be ascertained on application.

Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

CHANTREY INCHBALD,
Manager.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1893. [210]

To be Let.

TO BE LET

NO. 5, WILD DELL BUILDINGS (Furnished or Unfurnished). Five Good Rooms situated in the best part of the building.

Apply to
HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LD.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1894. [329]

TO LET.

HOUSE, 6 ROOMS, No. 2, Castle Terrace.

Apply to
SPANISH PROCUATION,
No. 14, Caine Road.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1894. [492]

TO LET.

DWELLING HOUSES:—
"BAHAR LODGE" at the Peak.

"HIGHCLERE" at Magazine Gap.

"DUNHEVED" Robinson Road—
(Partly Furnished).

"STILLINGFLEET" Robinson Road,
No. 8, CHANCERY LANE.

No. 2, RIFON TERRACE.

FLOORS in Blue Buildings,
Floors in Elgin Street, Peel Street
and Stanton Street.

FLOORS in No. 5, Shelley Street,
No. 3, VICTORIA VIEW, Kowloon,
No. 4, KNOTSFORD TERRACE,
Kowloon.

OFFICES:—
FIRST FLOOR No. 4, Queen's Road
Central, over the Bank of China,
Japan and the Straits, Ltd.

PRAYAS CENTRAL, over Messrs. Douglas
Lapack & Co.'s

GODOWNS:—
BLUE BUILDINGS.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 17th April, 1894. [23]

TO LET.

NO. 1 & 2, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
OFFICES in Victoria Buildings.

A LARGE and DRY GODOWN suitable for
the Storage of Opium, Cotton, &c., of about
2,000 Tons (gross) capacity, also to be let under
the above Premises.

OFFICE in No. 4, Praya Central,
No. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Hongkong, 12th April, 1894. [19]

Insurances.

THE
STANDARD.
ENDOWMENT
ASSURANCE.

1. AMONG THE MANY ADVANTAGES of this form of Assurance, the following may be mentioned:—

(a)—It secures an immediate Provision for wife and family or other relatives in event of early death.

(b)—It provides a Fund for Retirement.

(c)—It supplies an excellent Investment for the regular accumulation of small fixed sums of money.

(d)—The Surrender and loan values are larger than under ordinary Policies.

2. AFTER THE POLICY HAS BEEN THREE YEARS IN FORCE—should the Policy-holder wish to discontinue future payments—he will be entitled to receive, on application, a FREE PAID-UP POLICY for a proportionate amount of the Sum Assured, as explained in the Prospectus.

Full particulars on application,
DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents,
STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

Hongkong, 8th August, 1893. [747]

THE PALATINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED,
into which is merged
THE CITY OF LONDON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
(Established 1870.)

HEAD OFFICE:—MANCHESTER.

CAPITAL £1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £1,350,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £72,000

The UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Agent for the above COMPANY is prepared to accept Risks against Fire at Current Rates.

A. H. RENNIE,
16, Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 19th April, 1894. [490]

THE TOKYO MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:—TOKYO, JAPAN.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED £1,200,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP £600,000
GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE £400,000

RESERVE FUND, 30th June, 1893, £548,551.
SPECIAL RESERVE, Do. £134,097

TOTAL RESERVE £682,648

The Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

For the MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, K. FUKUI,
Manager.

Hongkong, 18th April, 1894. [485]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED £1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1893. [185]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).

CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000 \$833,333.33
EQUAL TO £833,333.33
RESERVE FUND £318,000.00

LEE SING, Esq. LO YUEN MOON, Esq.
LOU TAO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEL

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the World.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1884. [107]

Intimations.

SHANGHAI RACES.

RETURN TICKETS, FIRST SALOON, for the above RACES can be obtained on and after this date by the Steamers of the undermentioned Lines, available for one month from date of issue.

FARE.....\$60.

H. H. JOSEPH,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Co.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent, M. M. Co.

Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [437]

WANTED.

A SITUATION in a Mercantile Firm, either in Hongkong or the Outports. Have had several years' experience as CORRESPONDENCE CLERK and SALESMAN; also a knowledge of SHIPPING and GENERAL OFFICE WORK.—Testimonials.

Address, "CLYMA,"
c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1894. [474]

NGAI SHANG,
20, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

RATTAN FURNITURE of Every Description.

CHAIRS, COUCHES, TABLES, BASKETS, CHILDREN'S COTS, &c., &c.

Latest Patterns, Best Workmanship.

Rattan Core, Split Rattan, Canton Reed and Supplies of all kinds.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1893. [39]

Intimations.

CENTRAL HOTEL,
SHANGHAI.

Electric Lighting throughout the Premises.

Telegraphic Address:—
"CENTRAL,"
SHANGHAI.

THIS long-established SELECT Family Hotel, situated on the Bund, facing the river in the centre of the Settlements, is now fitted with the latest modern improvements, including Bath and Dressing Rooms ATTACHED to Suites and Single Rooms, with hot and cold water laid on, DOUCHE, SHOWER, SPRAYS, etc., and heated to a comfortable temperature during winter.

COMMODOUS RECEPTION ROOM FOR VISITORS.

SEPARATE ROOMS FOR PRIVATE DINNER PARTIES, &c.

An Assistant attends on Passengers by Mail Steamers.

N.B.—Special reduced charges may be arranged for on application to the Manager.

736

F. E. REILLY,
PROPRIETOR.

KELLY & WALSH, LD.

PUBLISHED THIS DAY

PRICE A New Edition of KELLY & WALSH'S DOLLARS AND STERLING EXCHANGE TABLES

FROM 1/6 TO 1/4 ASCENDING BY 1-16TH OF A PENNY.

ALSO PUBLISHED SEPARATELY

PRICE DOLLARS AND STERLING EXCHANGE TABLES

FROM 1/6 TO 1/11 1-16TH ASCENDING BY 1-16TH OF A PENNY.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED.

PUBLISHERS.

Hongkong, 19th April, 1894. [6]

W. BREWER.

HAS JUST RECEIVED.

MARION'S Photographic Dry Plates, Ostrich, Ivory, Instantaneous and Rapid.

Match Cricket Balls.

A splendid lot of Tennis Balls and Shoes.

Three Castle Cigarettes in tins.

Sweet Briar Cigarettes.

Pocket Knives.

Who's Who, 1894.

Cumtance—Riding Recollections & Trail Stories.

Gold, Sport and Coffee-planting in Mysore.

Details—Science of Money.

Varities Sinologues, by the Jesuit Fathers, 4 parts.

Savage's Domestic Medicine.

Ser's Stamp Album.

The International Stamp Album.

Stanley Gibbons's Stamp Album.

Large quantity of New Cheap Literature.

Mark Twain's Birthday Book.

Brown Russia Boots and Shoes.

W. BREWER,
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 5th April, 1894. [40]

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "Kremlin"—A. B. C. Code.—TELEPHONE, No. 32.

PROPRIETORS.....THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL—the most commodious and best appointed Hotel in the Far East, affords unequalled accommodation to travellers and others. It is situated in the centre of the town, opposite the General Post Office and the Hongkong Club, adjacent to Pedder's Wharf (the principal landing stage of the Colony) and in close proximity to the Banks and Shipping Office.

The HOTEL STEAM LAUNCH conveys passengers and baggage to and from all Mail Steamers. THE TABLE D'HOTE, at separate tables, is supplied with every delicacy, the cuisine being under experienced supervision.

THE BED-ROOMS, with adjoining Bath-rooms, are lofty and well ventilated, open on to spacious Verandahs, are lighted by gas and fitted throughout with electric communication.

The Reading, Writing and Smoking Rooms, Ladies' Dressing Rooms, the new Bar and public BILLIARD ROOMS (Six English and American Tables) are fitted with every convenience.

The WINES & SPIRITS are selected by an expert and the BEST BRANDS only are supplied. HYDRAULIC ASCENDING-ROOMS of the latest and most approved type convey passengers and baggage from the Entrance Hall to each of the five floors above.

NIGHT PORTERS and WATCHMEN are constantly on duty.

R. TUCKER,
Manager.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1893. [229]

DAWSON'S PERFECTION OLD SCOTCH WHISKY.

ALLISTON & CO., SOLE AGENTS, Hongkong and the Far East,
89, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1893. [64]

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

NEW GOODS.

RAIN COATS AND UMBRELLAS.

CHAIR APRONS, RUBBER BOOTS.

REMINGTON TYPEWRITERS.

FILTERS 1 GALLON, 10 GALLONS.

COOKING RANGES, COOKING UTENSILS.

ASPINALL'S ENAMELS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1894. [50]

Intimations.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), APRIL 21ST, 1894, at 2.45 P.M.

COMPETITION "MARTINI" CUP and SPOONS and INTERPORT PRACTICE; Ranges 200, 300 and 600 yards; Seven Shots and a Slighter at each distance. Entrance fee 30 cents.

Slighter and first four shots at each distance to count for "Martini" Cup. The INTERPORT MATCH probably take place on the 28th instant.

ARTHUR CHAPMAN,
Honorary Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th April, 1894. [46]

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of this SOCIETY will be held at the OFFICES of the SOCIETY, No. 4, PRAYA, HONGKONG, on SATURDAY, the 25th April instant, at 12 o'clock NOON, to consider and if thought fit approve the draft New Articles of Association which will be submitted to the Meeting, and in the event of the approval thereof, with or without modifications, to consider and if thought fit to pass a Special Resolution to the following effect, namely:—

"That the New Articles of Association already approved by this Meeting and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof be and the same be hereby approved and that such Articles be and they are hereby adopted as the Articles of Association of the Society to the exclusion of all the existing Articles or Regulations thereof."

Should the Resolution be duly passed it will be submitted for Confirmation at a Special Resolution to a Second Extraordinary Meeting which will be subsequently convened.

A Print of the proposed New Articles of Association may be seen at the SOCIETY'S above OFFICES on and after the 20th April instant.

By Order of Board,
N. J. EDE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1894. [403]

THE PHARMACY.

FLETCHER & Co. Dispensing and Retail Chemists, Perfumers, Druggists Sundries and Patent Medicine Vendors.

KEPLER'S MALT \$14.00

KEPLER'S MALT and OIL \$14.00

SCOTT'S EMULSION \$13.00

SCOTT'S EMULSION \$23.00

TOILET ACCESSORIES:—
Perfume Bottles, Cut Crystal, Combs, Brushes, Sponges, Sponge Bags, Flesh Gloves and Belts.

Perfumes:—Pineal, Atkinson, Colgate, Rick-acker and Brown Perfumery Co.

Hongkong, 23rd September, 1893. [28]

"DERMATOL,"

MANUFACTURED BY FARBERKE, HENST & Co. Its effect in stimulating the closing up of WOUNDS and in internal administration against diarrhoea, is described as amazing.

D. R. KNORR'S

LION BRAND

ANTI-PYRINE.

(DOSE FOR ADULTS 15 TO 35 GRAINS TROY.)

Is the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHUS, INFLUENZA, DENGUE, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the Medical Faculty. Ask for Dr. KNORR'S ANTI-PYRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.

To be had at every reputed Chemist and Druggist.

Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export Import and Bank Companies.

Beware of spurious imitations.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1894. [446]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL ROTISSERIE has been RE-OPENED under new and experienced management.

THE STRICTEST ATTENTION paid to the Cuisine.

A STAFF of thoroughly trained and specially selected servants has been engaged and is under the immediate supervision of the Manager.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1894. [198]

BOARD AND RESIDENCE,
No. 1, VICTORIA VIEW, KOWLOON.

MRS. SMITH and Mrs. LEWIS have taken the above admirably situated Establishment, where VISITORS will find every Accommodation at moderate rates.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1894. [420]

THOMAS' GRILL ROOMS,
(Corner of Queen's Road and Duddell Street.)

THE Undersigned has always thought that such a place as this was the one thing needed to fit in between HOTEL LIFE and the PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE—providing it be First-class in every detail. A place where one may have his GRILLED CHOP or STEAK at any hour of the Day, up to 11 P.M.; or later if notice be given. He is also prepared to SUPPLY MEALS to PRIVATE PARTIES per MENU or ORDER—the Parties sending Dishers, etc. for same—and Cash. Scale on application.

Monthly Board for One Person, \$35.00

Tiffin \$15.00

AMERICAN FROZEN OYSTERS always on hand and served in every Style.

Breakfast \$2.50

Tiffin \$2.75

Dinner \$1.00

SPECIAL TIFINS and DINNERS served in Excellent Style at short notice.

W. THOMAS,
Proprietor.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1894. [31]

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI AND KOBE.

"LINDISFARNE,"
E. Andrew, R.N.R., Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW Afternoon, the 21st instant.

For Freight, apply to
TATA & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [489]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

STEAM TO KOBE.

an ordinance strictly prohibiting the landing of cattle (for dairies or any other purpose) at any other point than some special wharf or jetty under a heavy penalty for any breach of the law. That such a measure is necessary there can be no doubt, for at present Chinese dairymen are constantly bringing cattle in from the mainland and driving them direct to the junks in which they are imported to their dairies, without any inspection of their condition prior to being landed almost in the heart of the City. All dairy cattle should be inspected by experts, and those that pass muster ought to be branded. If that were done an inspector of the Sanitary Board or any police officer would by a casual glance over the cattle in any dairy quickly see if there had been any contravention of the law. Seeing that pleuro-pneumonia takes some weeks to develop and that, in addition to cattle from the mainland of China, Australian, American, and Canadian cattle are often imported here, there can be no question as to the necessity for a thorough supervision being exercised over the premises, and that the present all-shed methods of the Sanitary Board should be improved upon at the earliest possible moment. The establishment of some sort of quarantine for newly imported cattle would perhaps to some considerable extent at least, have the desired effect and a portion of the spacious cattle sheds in Kennedy Town might be set apart for this purpose without involving any additional burden to the ratepayers. However, something practical must be done to prevent a recurrence of these periodical outbreaks of cattle disease, and the sooner it is done the better will it be for the credit of the Government and the health and comfort of the community. The members of the Sanitary Board must surely recognize that there has been quite enough shilly-shallying over this and other important matters under their jurisdiction and that the time has now arrived for action!

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

THE LATEST CRAZE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."—SIR, Since the last meeting of the Odd Volumes, this subject has been much talked about, and the next discourse and illustrations are awaited by all those who attended the meeting with a great deal of interest. In many circles experiments in mesmerism are now coming in vogue as an evening pastime, and I suppose the participants of each different set have a vague belief that they are especially endowed with a peculiar fitness for the development of miraculous propensities. I do not wish to discourage any of these ecstasies, but I sincerely believe that it will simply be a waste of energy to make practical experiments before understanding something more about the subject. I hear from indirect sources that some experiments in the way of scientific tests have been already rehearsed. Considering the interest which the last meeting of the Odd Volumes aroused all round it seems a certainty that there will be a great gathering when the tests and further explanations are given.

Yours faithfully,

X.

Hongkong, 20th April 1894.

NOTES FROM MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 19th April.

The dance which was held in the Club Uniao on Sunday last, was not so numerously attended nor so successful as was expected. This doubtless was due to the excessive heat, for dancing in a temperature registering well up in the eighties loses much of its charm. And the fact was realised here on Sunday when the cool verandahs of the Club were in far greater demand than the rooms in that for the dance were. The result clearly demonstrated the improvement that has taken place in the rank and file of the pupils who are under the direct management of the Jesuit Fathers.

It is notified that fresh tenders for the sulphur, saltpetre and gunpowder monopoly will be received to-morrow; the previous ones having all been rejected, none having come anywhere near the sum demanded.

One of the many reforms that are confidently predicted to take place in the near future, is the abolition of the office of Procurator (magistrate for trying Chinese cases). From this time the Chief Justice will take on all "beatable" criminals as well as Christian Dr. Ferras, the late Procurator, has been appointed Judge for the district of Lousa.

The professors attached to the National Lyceum have arrived here at last, and that much needed institution, which is expected to turn out scholars by machinery, will soon be an established fact. The building that has been chosen is the old barracks of St. Augustine, opposite the Theatre.

As your readers are doubtless aware, a Commission has been appointed to report upon the all-important one of harbour improvements and to draw up plans and specifications for the necessary machinery, a dredger and two lighters. Upon this work the Commission is now engaged and it is hoped that no unnecessary delay will occur. In the meantime, the Steamboat Company's *Hongkong* has altered her hour of sailing so as to avoid the ebb tides here.

Colonel Da Silva, Governor of Timor, and his family are waiting passage to that outlandish spot, and expect to get away in one of the Australian boats leaving shortly.

Dr. Aze, the new Attorney General, arrived here last week.

EASTERN PRISONS AND CIVILISATION.

Siam has been for some years endeavoring to follow in Japan's footsteps and graft some kind of Western civilisation on its ancient stock of fossilised Orientalism; but the southerners are a lamentably feeble and indolent race compared with the healthy vigour of the northern island empire; and the peoples of the Indo-Chinese peninsula seem to be hopelessly tainted with the soporific conservatism of China. Japan has adopted an admirable judicial system, and the best European lines, and it only needs time for the natives to become familiar with the change and for the judges to gain that experience which years and years alone can bring. Siam, on the other hand, is still in the slough of mandarin-slavery, with only a feeble attempt at emancipation in the capital itself. One phase of this evil is dealt with in the *Siam Observer*, which deserves credit for taking up a just cause in a practical manner, when apparently nobody else cares—since nobody is interested except

those who can do nothing. Our contemporary says:—
Siam can never claim a front place in the ranks of civilisation until a Howard or a Fry arises and purifies her prison system. At present it is a disgrace. The police arrest individuals daily and never know what the Courts do with them; the gaols are filled—not only with criminals, but also with fettered promoters and manacled witnesses; private prisons are permitted to monopolists such as the Opium Farmer; and altogether the system is a crying scandal. Yesterday we received a document purporting—with every semblance of authenticity—to be sent by the prisoners in the New Gaol, Boco number. We leave it to speak for itself:—

"We 800 prisoners write this to beg of you to print our petition that it may meet the eyes of the higher authorities. Many of us have been arrested and thrown into prison to await our trial for 9, 10, 13, 14, and even 17 years without any one taking the trouble to try us, and many of those who sent us here have since died. Those who were sent into prison to await their trials after us have been tried because they have had relatives who have been fortunate enough to get the trial heard; but we who have few or no relatives are left here. We have sent many petitions to His Majesty the King, but have had no answer; we do not know if these petitions have ever reached him. Indeed we have reason to believe that they have not. We have no one to help us now, so we beg that you may publish this petition to the King that he may pity us and pass sentence on us."

We regret to have to endorse much of this. Half of the periodical outbreaks which occur in the Gaol arise through the feeling of utter despair which maddens the prisoners—despair born of an ignorance as to when they will regain their freedom, for few know the term of incarceration to which they have been sentenced, and many, as the petitioners say, have not been even tried. In the "bad old times" in England, the cruel records of the ancient and honorable institution of coroners' inquests show I used to be customary to apprehend any person who reported the discovery of a dead body. The result was that after a while nobody ever did report such discoveries, even if the road was littered with corpses. In the same way justice in Siam is directly defeated by the system of imprisoning not only offenders, but also their accusers and witnesses. If they can't get the wrong-door they take to the wall, and somebody equally innocent. In any case there is seldom any definite period of imprisonment assigned, and the gaol-birds can only trust to luck liberating them and ending their sufferings. The system needs prompt and radical reform, and we sincerely trust that this petition will help to that end.

A JUDGE UPON "PRUDENT MEN."

Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams is a strong and careful judge, but it is difficult to reconcile his decision in the case brought by the Official Receiver against certain directors of the Anglo-Austrian Printing Union with equity. The Official Receiver sought to recover some £88,000 wrongfully paid away, as he contended, by the directors. This sum was made up of £75,000 paid on account to the vendors of certain Vienna newspapers, properties to be bought by the Union, £10,000 allotted to be paid to the directors, and £3,000 additional paid out of profits, and £466,000 paid to the directors. Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams has ruled that the three directors, defendants in the action, are liable for the smaller payments, but not for the £75,000.

Let us briefly recall the facts. The Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union, Limited, was formed with a capital of £750,000, for the purpose of buying and working up dry Vienna newspapers. The price to be paid for these was £1,000,000, of which the vendors were to take £200,000 in preference and ordinary shares and debentures in equal proportions, the balance being payable in cash or cash and ordinary shares, at the option of the directors. Under any circumstances the Vienna vendors were to get £200,000 in cash, and the directors assumed that at least £100,000 would be necessary for working capital. But the public were sluggish in their response, and less than £100,000 was subscribed.

Under these circumstances what was the plan of the directors? It seems to us that a prudent man then was one who was to us that they should have refused to go to allotment. They had invited the public to buy certain businesses for which they had to find a minimum sum of £200,000 in cash, and it was necessary to find another £100,000 for working expenses. Instead of getting this minimum of £300,000 from the public they got less than £100,000. How then could they hope to go on upon the basis of the prospectus—that prospectus upon which the £750,000 was subscribed? It was not open to the directors to say that since less than a third of the money they wanted had been found they would pay a third of the business they intended to buy. The Vienna vendors might have been willing, but it was the very essence of the scheme that there should be a great newspaper amalgamation controlled by the Union. It was this amalgamation that was to place the Union in the position that was to insure it large profits, and if it could not be effected it ceased to be possible to carry out the scheme upon which the directors based their appeal to the public for subscriptions. Their plan should have been no allotment, and application money should have been returned. But that was not the view of their duty which commended itself to the directors. The Company was brought out in the last week of February, 1890, and unless the £300,000 was paid to the Vienna vendors in March the option lapsed. Knowing this the directors went to allotment and proceeded forthwith to give Mr. Bottomley £75,000 to hand to the Vienna vendors. "The payment of the £75,000," said Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams, "was a payment by directors on account of purchase-money against which the directors knew that they might not get transfer of the property. What then?" "Well then," continued the judge, "the directors and Mr. Bottomley all believed at this time that if the Vienna vendors refused to give transfers against the payment of £75,000 the necessary sum for the payment to the vendors of the whole £300,000 in cash to which they were entitled against completion could be raised by the placing in Vienna and London of debentures and preference shares." Faghter on in his judgment the judge put the case against the directors higher when he speaks of this payment of £75,000 as one against which the directors knew they would get neither transfer of property nor security for repayment in case of non-transfer. Needless to say the Vienna vendors refused to transfer their properties. They took the £75,000 and extended the option for a few weeks, but they laughed at the notion of transferring until they got the other £125,000.

Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams says that "both Mr. Bottomley and the directors intended and arranged that during the extended time obtained for the completion of the Vienna contracts a sufficient number of debentures and shares should be placed in the market to raise cash sufficient to enable Mr. Bottomley to complete the purchase of the properties from the Vienna vendors." But it was likely that this £125,000 could be raised, having regard to the smallness of the public subscription? And if it had been raised was it likely—was there the faintest probability—of the £300,000

necessary for working capital being found? There was no such likelihood, and as a matter of fact none of the money was raised, and the option lapsed. £75,000 in hard sovereigns was parted with in the form of a forfeitable deposit. This £75,000 was bound to be lost unless within a short time the directors were able to find another £125,000. There was never any reasonable likelihood of their finding it and the additional monies necessary for working capital, but Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams will not admit that in parting with the £75,000 the directors were guilty of gross negligence. All he allows himself to say is that "they honestly intended to do the best for the Company in making the payment to Mr. Bottomley. They were very sanguine, and they had unlimited faith in the future of the Company. They therefore took no precautions to secure for the Company the repayment of the £75,000 in the event of things not turning out as well as was expected. They knew that they were running a risk, but it was a risk which they decided that they, as prudent men, might run."

It is not for us to dispute with Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams as to the right interpretation of the law, but we may be allowed an opinion as to risks which "prudent men" may run, and we do not think there are many business men in the City of London who will disagree with us when we say that "prudent men" would not have handed over £75,000 to Vienna newspaper proprietors without some security, that is, the position of it would be returned if the balance was not forthcoming. And that these directors themselves knew that they were not acting as "prudent men" is pretty conclusively proved by the fact that they were advised by their solicitor not to part with the £75,000 unconditionally, and that it was only after Mr. Agg-Gardner, one of the directors, had left the board under the impression that the solicitor's counsel would be taken that the remaining directors went back upon his advice, and handed the money to Mr. Bottomley. However, Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams' decision is not of much practical consequence to the unfortunate shareholders. It is of great importance to shareholders generally, as an indication from high authority of how directors may play with their money, but had the decision been the other way the £75,000 would not have found its way back to the pockets whence it came. Cold comfort this, but it is all we can offer the unfortunate who found the money.—*Fairplay.*

A WHEAT DOLLAR.

Mr. Thomas A. Edison suggests a wheat dollar in the place of a dollar of either gold or silver. He says that a bushel of wheat can be compressed to the size of a silver dollar, and that when wheat dollars become more plentiful than bushels of wheat the wheat dollar may be literally put in soak and thus restored to its original condition. Mr. Edison thinks a bushel of wheat would be a fair unit of value, and would comply with the requirement that money should possess a value apart from its use as money. Whether Mr. Edison is in earnest in this suggestion of experimenting on the credibility of a newspaper interviewer is not easy to determine. If the world were new with all its present stock of knowledge wheat might be made a unit of value. But with \$7,000,000,000 of gold and silver in the world in the form of money there are weighty arguments against a change. One can only speculate as to the intrinsic value of gold or silver. The commercial value of the two metals is determined by the combined forces of intrinsic value and money value. The metals have a certain unknown value as metals. This is multiplied one knows how many times by the use of the two metals as money. Centuries of experience have imparted to both gold and silver the value they hold to commodities and to each other. Mr. Edison says the people demand a dollar that represents a dollar's worth of labour performed. This is an argument in favor of silver and gold. Both metals represent labour performed. If there is any doubt of this let a capitalist and a labourer start out in search of either gold or silver. They will go over so well equipped in respect to skill and science, energy and muscle, but they will be fortunate if they do not find that a dollar's worth of gold costs a dollar in labour and a dollar's worth of silver quite as much in its legal ratio as a dollar's worth of gold. There is, in fact, no cause to find fault with the basis of our currency. The only trouble is that being composed of two metals the idea has been conceived that if one of the two metals could be eliminated the other would rise in commercial value.—*Call.*

NEWS AND GOSSIP.

The Duke of Parma, father of the Princess of Bulgaria, is the father of fifteen children—ten daughters and five sons—all living.

The Norwegian steamers which went to the Antarctic last year in search of black whales and seals were entirely unsuccessful.

A scheme for using the 24-hour tidal rise and fall of the Mersey to light the city of Liverpool by electricity is under consideration.

Berlin has chosen the site for her Exposition in 1896—a tract of 150 acres only 5 minutes distant from her most famous park, the Tiergarten.

London is stirred over the discussion touching religious instruction in the public schools. The non-secularist influence in school matters is growing.

A French priest stationed at Jerusalem has been the forte-finder of a talent of the time of King David! It was unearthed in his diary.

Mashonaland has a newspaper called the *Umtali Advertiser*. It is written, not printed, and the edition of fifty is issued by a copying process.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has abandoned his proposed visit to England. His "better halves" couldn't agree upon which one of them should go with him.

Green is the fashionable color in London for women in the upper circles. It is a delicate indication to their husbands that they believe in home rule.

Education, bimetalism, sculpture, painting, lace-making and the labour problem are some of the things the German Emperor is reported to be studying.

In connection with food, army and navy supplies, and transport, together with a special exhibit in connection with sport.

The total gold output of the colony of Victoria, Australia, during last year was 707,367 ounces of the value of about \$15,000,000. This was 44,000 ounces more than the yield in 1893 and the largest since 1885.

Blamark has received from Emperor William assurances of the latter's warmest condolence over the loss sustained by the ex-Chancellor of the blowing down of no less than 40,000 trees by a hurricane in the Schenwald.

The Italian Chambers have also accepted an increase of the duty on grain to 9 lire per quintal. At this rate the Italian farmers hope to be able to compete successfully with the cheaper breadstuffs imported from Russia and America.

An Australian confectioner has hit upon the idea of printing the news of the day upon a thin paste of dough, using chocolate instead of ink. He delivers these cakes to his customers, who first read and then eat them with their coffee.

Emperor William's famous bottle of wine, which he sent as a peace offering to Blamark, was of the "Steinberg Cabinet of 1842" vintage. It was a bottle of the finest wine in the imperial cellar, of which there are only a few left.

Mrs. Boudouard, wife of the founder of the Bon Marche dry-goods store, Paris, left a large bequest for a hospital. The usual legal technicalities delayed for ten years the fulfilment of the project, but the hospital is now to be erected at a cost of 10,000,000.

Longevity is by no means a thing of the past in England. The average of the persons whose obituaries appeared in the *London Times* during the course of a week last month, was between eighty and eighty-six years, and such a record is said not to be uncommon.

There is a magnificent scheme now being canvassed in the English newspapers for the improvement of affairs in Egypt. It is proposed to dam the river Nile so as to impound its waters and furnish a supply at all times for purposes of irrigation.

Archduke Eugene of Austria, who was a year ago a candidate for the Archbishopric of Olmutz—which went to a Cardinal who has taken his parents, Jewish peasants, to live with him in his palace—has accepted the command of an infantry brigade stationed at Olmutz.

President Carnot does not care much for the fuss and hummy of official life. They built a separate entrance to his box at the Theatre Francaise so that he should not be bothered by the common crowd, but he refused to use it, and so the new entrance was bricked up again.

Worth, the man-milliner and dress-maker, is an Englishman who went to Paris early in life and soon engaged in the business which has made him famous. Every dress sent out from his establishment is photographed. Mr. Worth's two sons are associated with him in business.

Dr. William Erb of the University of Heidelberg says that nervousness (grouping the various ailments that come under that head in this general term) is the growing malady of the age caused by too much intensity and rapidly in school life and in business and social pursuits.

King Milan of Serbia is "broke." The overthrow of the dynasty to which he belongs is looked upon as a matter of a few months only, when he will be turned adrift to hustle for himself. He has not a dollar, and is head over ears in debt, and some of them are very disreputable debts.

General Mellet, the "father" of the French army, who died recently, was the last surviving Waterloo officer France had. Waterloo survivors are very scarce and he was a surprise to the British War Office when an old soldier, ninety-six years old, turned up in London the other day with a Waterloo pension certificate.

Chief Justice Jones of England has ruled that a minister of the gospel has no right to plead as a privileged communication in court the substance of a confidential communication made to him by a minister by one of his parishioners.

The court, he says, not the individual, must judge when the ends of justice require such secrets to be made public.

In Madrid, recently, Don Andres Gomez, a dean of the church, was dogged with all the ceremonial excursions of the saint form. After expressing repentance for having been a Freemason, he was taken in solemn procession, led by priests and flanked by the official residence of the Bishop, where his upper garments were taken off. As he knelt, the Bishop whipped him with cords over the bare shoulders, while the priests chanted "Miserere Mei."

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED! Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 59, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Today's Advertisements.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 525.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION OF THE ABOVE CHAPTER will be held in the FREREMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 20th instant, at 8 for 8.30 o'clock precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [471]

VICTORIA PRIORY.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE VICTORIA PRIORY will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 25th instant, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend. Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [495]

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 1,165, E.C.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE ABOVE LODGE will be held in the FREREMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on FRIDAY, the 27th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [496]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI THE Company's Steamship

"FORKIN."

Captain Davis, will be despatched for the above Ports on MONDAY, the 25th instant, at Noon. For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFAIR & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [493]

Today's Advertisements.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH, 1894, AT 2.30 P.M.

COMPETITION INTERPORT MATCH. Ranges 200, 500 and 600 yards; Seven Shots and a Sighter at each distance.

The Team will be finally selected on SATURDAY from the following:—Commander ASHE, R.N.

Mr. A. CHAPMAN, Mr. W. DUNCAN, Mr. C. FORD, Mr. N. GILLIES, Mr. D. MCLENNAN, Mr. A. MANN, Mr. E. ROBINSON, Mr. F. SMYTH, Mr. W. G. WATSON, Mr. A. WATSON.

ARTHUR CHAPMAN, Honorary Secretary. Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [46]

FOR SHANGHAI. THE Steamship "OAKLEY."

Captain Mahood, will be despatched as above on or about SATURDAY, the 28th instant. For Freight or Passage, apply to DODD WELL CARROLL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 20th April, 1894. [497]

THE EASTERN EXTENSION, AUSTRALASIA AND CHINA TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LD.

HONGKONG STATION.

IN consequence of the continued depreciation in the value of the Dollar, and the resultant heavy loss on remittances, and on the OUTPAYMENTS to other TELEGRAPH COMPANIES, the above-named &c., &c., Catalogues will be issued, and the Furniture on View from Friday, the 20th instant. TERMS OF SALE:—As customary. F. RAPP, Auctioneer. Hongkong, 18th April, 1894. [487]

PUBLIC AUCTION OF VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.

THE Underigned has received instructions to Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, ON TUESDAY, the 24th April, 1894, commencing at 2.30 P.M., at the Residence of Capt. A. W. R. CORBAN, No. 6, Morque Terrace.

THE WHOLE OF THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Comprising:—DRAWING-ROOM, DINING-ROOM, BED and BATH-ROOM FURNITURE, &c., &c., Catalogues will be issued, and the Furniture on View from Friday, the 20th instant. TERMS OF SALE:—As customary. F. RAPP, Auctioneer. Hongkong, 18th April, 1894. [488]

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" FOR 1894.

THIS Valuable Work, with many NEW ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, IS NOW READY.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS.

Orders for Copies of THE "HONGKONG DIRECTORY" may be sent to the following Agents:—

HONGKONG:—Mr. W. Brewer, Messrs. F. Blackhead & Co., Messrs. Heermann, Herbst & Co., Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., The Hongkong Trading Co., Man Yit Tong, Hollywood Road.

MACAO:—Mr. A. de Mello, AMOY and FORAMOS:—Messrs. N. Mandle & Co., LD.

FOOCHOW:—Mr. H. W. Churchill, SHANGHAI:—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, ERN PORT:—Shanghai.

JAPAN:—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, YOKOHAMA:—The "Bangkok Times" Office, SINGAPORE:—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, PARIS and LONDON:—Messrs. Amédée Prince & Co.

or to "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Office, Pedder's Hill, Hongkong, 16th January, 1894.

Intimations.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co., WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, LONDON AND GLASGOW.

19, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 24th August, 1893.

F. BLACKHEAD & Co., SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

SOLE AGENTS FOR HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES, &c., &c., EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES. Hongkong, 14th July, 1893. [793]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, SEWING MACHINES, &c.

THE Underigned have received instructions to Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, (For Sundry Accounts) TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), April 21st, 1894, AT SALE ROOMS, 17, PRAYA CENTRAL, commencing at 2.45 P.M.

A QUANTITY OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE & EFFECTS, Comprising:—

Tapestry Covered Drawing-room Suite, Bookcases, Sideboard, Dining Tables and Chairs, Marble-top Tables, Card Tables, Writing Desks, Rattan Furniture, Double and Single Bedsteads, Wardrobes with Plate Glass Doors, Dressing Tables, Marble-top Washstands, Toilet Sets, Shanghai Baths, Cooking Stoves, Ice Safes, Meat Scales, Electro-Plated and Glass Ware, Cutlery, Bath-room, Kitchen and various HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

Also, A CONSIGNMENT OF SEWING MACHINES, Two Jibricklans, One Double Barreled Fowling Piece. SALE TERMS:—Cash on delivery. A. E. STEELS & Co., Auctioneers, &c. Offices, 17, Praya Central, Hongkong, 18th April, 1894. [486]

PUBLIC AUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.

THE Underigned has received instructions to Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, TO-MORROW (SATURDAY), the 21st April, 1894, at 4 P.M., at No. 5, WILLIAMS BUILDINGS, Wanchai Road, Wanchai.

THE WHOLE OF THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Comprising:—DRAWING-ROOM, DINING-ROOM, BED and BATH-ROOM FURNITURE, &c., &c., Catalogues will be issued, and the Furniture on View from Friday, the 20th instant. TERMS OF SALE:—As customary. F. RAPP, Auctioneer. Hongkong, 18th April, 1894. [487]

PUBLIC AUCTION OF VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.

THE Underigned has received instructions to Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, ON TUESDAY, the 24th April, 1894, commencing at 2.30 P.M., at the Residence of Capt. A. W. R. CORBAN, No. 6, Morque Terrace.

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